Performance of Steel Industry

3175. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the performance of steel industries during last three years;

(b) the problems faced by the steel industries today; and

(c) the detailed steps taken by Government to modernise steel industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) The performance of steel industries during the last 3 years in terms of production of finished steel is as below :—

Year	(in Million Tonnes)
1997-98	23.37
1998-99	23.82
1999-2000	26.48 (Provisional)

(b) The problems faced by the steel industry at present include :

(i) Sluggish growth in demand in the steel consuming sectors;

(ii) Greater competition from imports;

(iii) Dumping of finished steel;

(iv) Cost escalations in input materials for steel industry;

(v) Adverse conditions in export market for steel;

(vi) Decline in domestic and international prices.

(c) The Public and Private Sector Steel Plants have taken up the modernisation projects themselves to be technically competitive in the global market.

Competitiveness of SAIL

3176 . SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state the detailed plan of SAIL to overcome the setbacks it suffered and ensure competitiveness?